



**Amherst Medical Reserve Corps**  
AMHERST HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
70 BOLTWOOD WALK, AMHERST, MA 01002  
(413) 256-4077 fax (413) 256-4053



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## August 2005 Amherst MRC Updates

### NEWS:

- **Welcome!**

We have two new MRC members. Welcome to Pam Aselton, RNP and Bruce Fuller, EMT-B.

- **Amherst MRC Leadership Roles**

The Amherst MRC staff will be conducting interviews for an MRC Leadership Board. The roles will involve leadership within both the organization/structure of the Amherst MRC and leadership in actual operations and within the incident command system. The board will work together as a team to solidify the sustainability of our MRC organization. Specific individuals may take on areas of focus including (but not limited to): recruitment, sustainability, medical operations, community liaison, public health outreach, and MRC training. We will expect leaders to be willing to complete more advanced training in incident command for public health professionals and participate whenever possible in statewide or national MRC trainings or conferences. The Leadership Board will meet once per month in addition to the regular MRC training. We hope to send one or more members of the Leadership Board to the Northeast Regional MRC Sustainability Conference on the Cape on October 5-6.

**INTERVIEW SLOTS: Monday, September 12 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30 or Monday, September, 19 5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00**

**Please sign up on the sheet or email Kate at [katek@amherstma.gov](mailto:katek@amherstma.gov) We will happily add additional slots if necessary!**

- **Northeast Regional MRC Summit**

All MRC members in are invited to a Regional MRC Summit on Friday, October 7, 2005. The summit will be held on the Cape. Details to follow. Please let Kate know if you are interested and might be able to attend.

- **Training Opportunities:**

Incident Command for Public Health Training 9am-3pm September 13 at GCC (CEUs for Nurses, CMEs for Physicians, and Con Ed Credits for EMTs and health officers will be awarded.) **Ask Kate for a registration form.**

Local Public Health and the Law: Preparing for the Likely Prepares us for the Unlikely 9:30am-4:00pm November 21 at Worcester DCU. **Contact Kate if interested so that we can register as a group.**

Introduction to Animals in Disasters 9am-4pm October 26 at UMass Mullins Center. **Ask Kate for a registration form.**

*If you are able to attend any of these trainings, please let Kate know. It would be great if you would bring back information to the MRC during the following monthly meeting. Thanks!*

### ONGOING:

- **MRC ID Badges**

We are working with the Easthampton and Franklin County MRCs to coordinate the color-coding of volunteer levels. (ie. non-clinical, clinical/non-medical, and medical) **Anyone who has not had an ID badge photo taken, including new members:** Please call or email Theresa Laizer at Amherst College Dining Services to set up an appointment. 413-542-5820 [talaizer@amherst.edu](mailto:talaizer@amherst.edu)

- **Public Access Defib Project**

We have raised \$700 thus far. If you have more ideas about folks or organizations in the community to whom a donation request could be sent or are willing to help with this community project by becoming a CPR instructor, please let Kate know.

- **Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) course**

Please sign up for this women's self defense course on the sign up sheet or by emailing Kate. Your friends, neighbors, and coworkers are welcome. The course will be a series of four 4-hour sessions, most likely in an every-other week format. We need 12-15 students in order to run the course. It will be fun! DATES: TBA by Josh, I have requested Monday evenings this fall.

- **CPR Training**

Please sign up on the sign up sheet or by emailing [katek@amherstma.gov](mailto:katek@amherstma.gov). DATES: 6-10pm Wednesdays September 7, and September 14, and September 21. Must attend all three. I will cancel or shorten last class if class is small and/or we finish all of the material early.

- **HAN Training**

Please sign up on the sign up sheet or email Kate. DATES: Monday, August 15 6:30pm-7:30pm or Wednesday August 24 3:30-4:30pm. If you are unable to attend one of these trainings and still need the HHAN training, Kate will set up individual trainings, please email.

- **Work in Progress: Fall Flu Clinic/Drill**

Our October training will be a collaboration with the Department of Public Health. The topic will be Emergency Dispensing Sites (EDS) including details about Amherst's sites, information about some communicable diseases, and specifics regarding the flu vaccine. We hope to have a combined EDS drill and actual flu clinic on November 19.

**This date is tentative and not for publication.** Please give preliminary commitment this evening as to whether you will be available for the training on October 17 and the dispensing site on November 19. We will need MRC members to dispense medication and to staff the concurrent health fair.

- **Work in Progress: UMass MRC**

Josh and Kate are currently working as partners with a group from the University Health Service and the Schools of Nursing and Public Health. The group hopes to create a University and/or 5-College MRC that will partner with the Amherst MRC for trainings, responses, etc.

- **National Incident Management System Online Training**

For anyone who was not present for the May NIMS training, please complete the IS-700 training module online at <http://training.fema.gov/> Scroll down to "New Courses." Warning: it's dry...but it's the standard that is being pushed across the country in emergency response groups and we need to comply.

- **National Core Competency Committee**

Please give Kate feedback regarding our trainings or priorities for MRC trainings on the national level. I will be representing the northeast region on a national core competency work group.

**NEXT MRC MEETING & TRAINING:**

**SAFE -- Amherst Fire Department Program (being rescheduled from July)  
6:30pm SEPTEMBER DATE TBA PLEASE VOTE TONIGHT OR VIA EMAIL**

**Possible Dates:**

**Thursday, September 22, 2005**

**Monday, September 26, 2005**

**Thursday, September 29, 2005**

Kate Kelly [katek@amhersma.gov](mailto:katek@amhersma.gov) Josh Shanley [shanleyj@amherstma.gov](mailto:shanleyj@amherstma.gov) Julie Federman [federmanj@amherstma.gov](mailto:federmanj@amherstma.gov)





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**August 8, 2005  
MRC Meeting Agenda**

**1. Follow up on June ideas and progress**

**A. Handout – Discussion and review of notes from June meeting**

Success: Our first invitee, Rep. Story, did attend in July!

We are required to use the MRC national logo

Plan to have an Amherst MRC brochure this fall for recruitment

Four MRC projects or events per year was the prevailing theme. So far we have two:

- Flu Clinic/EDS Drill/Health Fair in November
- Family Preparedness Workshop/AV Project Date TBA –this winter

**B. Mission Statement Draft Review & Feedback**

The Amherst Medical Reserve Corps is an interdisciplinary team of volunteers whose mission is to support the existing public health infrastructure by enhancing local public health emergency response and increasing community awareness of public health issues. The Amherst MRC is committed to supplementing local health care resources in times of natural disasters, outbreaks, bioterrorism or other public health emergencies and to serve the community through ongoing public outreach programs and education.

**2. Tonight's breakout sessions:**

**A. Family Preparedness Workshop Planning Workgroup**

-Follow up on ideas from June meeting regarding a plan for a community workshop about family preparedness and the idea of partnering with a local AV class and or ACTV

Things we might need: A workshop outline, family preparedness resources (MRC staff can help), a "director," MRC members who are willing to be the instructors a contact person who will call schools or ACTV, a "to-do" list for Kate, possibly outside meetings to make this happen, other things the group decides...

**B. Health Fair & MRC Booth/Table Workgroup**

-follow up on ideas from June meeting regarding planning for health fairs and events

Things we might need: "wish list" of materials or give-aways for the booth or table, theme, commitment from MRC members to staff our first table at the flu clinic, a main point person for the November flu clinic health fair, possibly an outside meeting to pull details together

**3. Various Sign Ups:**

-Before you leave this evening, please sign up for the various trainings, interviews, and the flu clinic & DPH training.